

REMARKS

At the outset, Applicants note that the Examiner has not provided an indication that the documents submitted with the Information Disclosure Statements filed on June 9, 2005 have been considered. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the documents and provide an initialed copy of the PTO SB-08 forms filed with the June 9, 2005 Information Disclosure Statement. Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the indication that the documents cited in the March 24, 2006 Information Disclosure Statement have been considered.

On page 2 of the Office Action ("Action"), the Examiner rejects claims 1-7 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2004/0070850 A1 to Kim et al. ("Kim"). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

The present application claims priority to Japanese Patent Publication No. 2003-052554 filed on February 28, 2003. A certified copy of the priority application was filed on February 19, 2004 and receipt was acknowledged by the Examiner on page 1 of the Action. In addition, Applicants submit herewith a certified English translation of the priority document. Therefore, the effective filing date of the present application is February 28, 2003, which is prior to the filing date (i.e., July 8, 2003) of Kim. Accordingly, the rejection of claims 1-7 is improper because Kim is not prior art under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e). Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-7 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) in view of Kim.

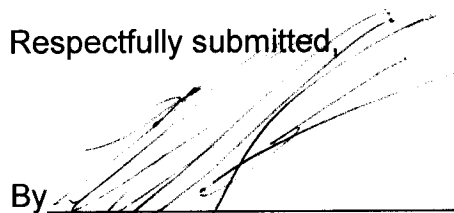
The application is in condition for allowance. Notice of same is earnestly solicited. Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Penny Caudle (Reg. No.

46,607) at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Due: August 11, 2006

Respectfully submitted,



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Attachment: Verified English Translation of
JP-2003-052554